Site-Specific Wilderness Information

Following are some guiding questions for gathering background wilderness information specific to your park's wilderness area.

- I. What legislation designated your park's wilderness area? Does the language in the wilderness area's enabling legislation differ from the language in the Wilderness Act of 1964? If so, how?
- 2. What other legislation affects or influences management of your park's wilderness area?
- 3. Which influential people contributed to the designation of your park's wilderness? What biographical information is available for these individuals? Are there strong national or local voices from individuals or organizations that influenced your wilderness area (i.e., Marjorie Stoneman Douglas at Everglades National Park; President Clinton for many California wilderness areas in the California Desert Protection Act; President Carter for Alaska wilderness areas in ANILCA; Mardy Murie as a strong voice for Alaskan parks; Harvey Broome in Great Smoky Mountains National Park; etc.)
- 4. What are the local uses and concerns that influence management of your park's wilderness?
- 5. Who in your park is responsible for wilderness management decisions? Contact that person for more information about wilderness history and current issues. Are there other personnel involved with wilderness management or wilderness education?